



In Which We Meet Two Celebrated
Adventurers With A Problem Of Ethics,
And A Young Woman Takes An Urgent Job.
At Four O'Clock In The Morning.

MANY YEARS AGO.

I AM THE
EMPIRE'S FINEST
CRYPTOZOOLOGIST,
ARCTURUS. I CRAVE
EVIDENCE OF MY
FINDINGS.

YOU CRAVE
A PERMANENT
PROFESSORSHIP,
OLD MAN. MY LORD,
BUT THERE'S A
STENCH IN HERE.

YOU'VE
ALWAYS BEEN ABLE TO
SEE RIGHT THROUGH
ME. YOU KNOW I'M
RIGHT ABOUT THEM,
THOUGH.

YOU AND GINNY
HAVE ALWAYS WORRIED
TOO MUCH ABOUT THE
OPINIONS OF OUR PEERS.
THE SMELL IS GETTING
WORSE, KEVIN.

HARD EVIDENCE OF MY
FINDS WILL LEAD TO JOB
SECURITY, TO BE SURE--
BUT NO MATTER WHAT
YOU SAY, THE PATH TO
PROFESSIONAL
VALIDATION IS FOUND
IN, WELL...



...BRINGING
THE CREATURES
OF DARKNESS
INTO THE
LIGHT.



MY CONTACT
IN *CORNWALL* SAID THAT
SEVERAL HIKERS SPOTTED TINY,
COLORFUL LIGHTS FLITTING
ABOUT THE TREES AROUND
HERE AT NIGHT. WHEN I ARRIVED
HERE YESTERDAY, I FOUND THE
PIXIE SCAT THAT LED
ME IN HERE.


YOU THINK
IT'S *ONE*,
THEN? OR A
COLONY?



I HAVEN'T
THE
FOGGIEST.

IF WE CAN
FIND A LAIR,
PHOTOGRAPH IT--
GET EVIDENCE OF
THE CREATURES--
IT'D MAKE A FINE
CENTERPIECE FOR
MY BOOK.

THE JOB
AT OXFORD WOULD
BE MINE FOR THE
TAKING, AND GINNY'D
HAVE HER "BETTER
LIFE," EH?



I RECKON OXFORD
WOULD BE MORE
WILLING TO FORK
OUT FINANCING FOR
YOUR EXPEDITIONS,
AS WELL...



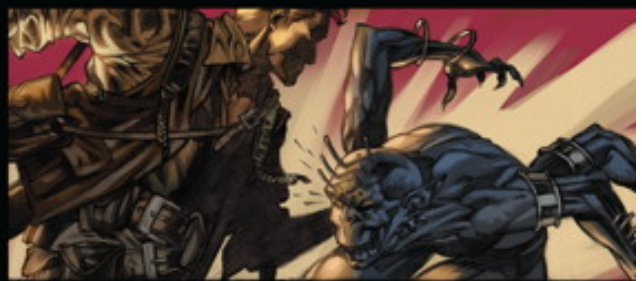
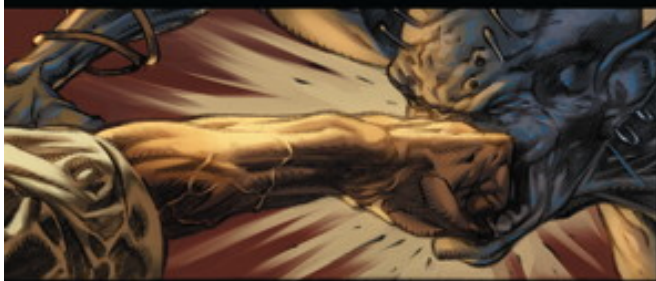
BENEFITS OF
RECOGNITION,
OLD FRIEND--



OVERHEAD,
KEVIN!



FWOOSH





THAT WAS IT! JUST LIKE YOU SAID! YOU SAID IT WOULD BE HERE-- AND THERE IT IS!



WE'VE GOT TO GO AFTER IT.



WHAT? WELL, OF COURSE. I CAN BRING IN MORE LIGHTING EQUIPMENT AND BETTER PHOTO GEAR. JUST GIVE ME AN HOUR--

NOW. DAMNED THING ACTUALLY GOT MY WEDDING RING. IT WAS GINNY'S GRANDDAD'S. YOU KNOW SHE'LL SUFFER A STROKE IF I LOSE IT.



CAN'T HAVE THAT, NOW, CAN WE?



HWOOSH

DAMMIT!

YOU FORGET YOU'RE WEARING ONE OF MY WING PACKS, THICKIE?

CHOK
WSSHH

YOU HAVEN'T CALLED ME THAT SINCE WE WERE BOARDERS!

YOU HAVEN'T ACTED THIS *THICK* SINCE THEN, OLD BOY!

SKASH

NO!!!



IT'S
GETTING
AWAY!

SKFFF